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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF OREGON

MEDFORD DIVISION

JAMES DEHOOG, et al.;

Case No. 1:15-cv-02250-CL

Plaintiffs;

v.

**ANHEUSER-BUSCH INBEV, SA/NV and
SABMILLER PLC;**

Defendants.

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF APPEAL

Judge Ann L. Aiken

Notice is hereby given under Fed. R. App. P. 3 that all Plaintiffs, JAMES DEHOOG, BRIAN BOUTELLER, SHONNA BOUTELLER, CARLY BOWEN, TOM BUTTERBAUGH, ERICA I. CORONA, MARIA G. CORONA, CHRIS DENNETT, JOHN DESBIENS, MATTHEW JOHNSON, CYNTHIA A. KREITZBERG, EDWARD LAWRENCE, JERUSHA MALAER, ROBERT MALAER, MICHAEL MARTIN, MICHAEL MCATEE, DAVID MILLIGAN, JEFF REEDER, RALPH REEDER, WADE SCAGLIONE, BETH H. SILVERS, BRADLEY O. SILVERS and PATRICE WADE, hereby appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from the final Order and Judgment of the United States District Court for the District of Oregon, granting Defendants' Motions to Dismiss, and adopting the Findings and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge, dated October 3, 2016. (Dkt. Nos. 112 and 113).

DATED this 2nd day of November, 2016.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was served electronically via the Court's electronic filing system on the 2nd day of November, 2016, according to this Court's provision for service and sent to the following counsel of record indicated below:

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DATED this 2nd day of November, 2016.

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON
MEDFORD DIVISION

JAMES DEHOOG, ET AL.,

1:15-cv-02250-CL

Plaintiffs,

v.

ORDER

ANHEUSER-BUSCH INBEV, SA/NV;
SABMILLER, PLC,

Defendants.

AIKEN, District Judge:

On July 22, 2016, Magistrate Judge Mark D. Clarke filed a Findings and Recommendation (#102), and the matter is now before this Court. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B), Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b). Plaintiffs have filed Objections (#106), Defendants have responded to Plaintiffs' Objections (##108, 109) and I have reviewed the file of this case *de novo*. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); McDonnell

Douglas Corp. v. Commodore Bus. Mach., Inc., 656 F.2d 1309, 1313 (9th Cir. 1981).

I have given this matter *de novo* review. I find no error. Accordingly, I ADOPT the Findings and Recommendation. Defendants' Motions to Dismiss (##41, 43) are GRANTED.

I turn then to the question of amendment. Dismissal without leave to amend is appropriate where amendment would be futile.

Lipton v. Pathogenesis Corp., 284 F.3d 1027, 1039 (9th Cir. 2002). After reviewing the Complaint, briefing, and the exhibits submitted by both parties, I conclude that any amendment would be futile, particularly in light of the Ninth Circuit's ruling in a factually-similar case, Edstrom v. Anheuser-Busch InBev, 647 F. App'x 733 (9th Cir. 2016). In Edstrom, the court held that "[t]o establish a *prima facie* case, a Section 7 plaintiff generally must show that the challenged transaction would increase the concentration of firms in the relevant market." Id. at 735. The Ninth Circuit noted that the challenged transaction in Edstrom did not "increase ABI's market share or the concentration of the U.S. beer market," and found that the plaintiffs "failed to plausibly allege that the challenged transaction is anti-competitive." Id.

Plaintiffs in this case, like those in Edstrom, cannot plausibly allege that the challenged transaction will increase either ABI's market share or the concentration of firms in the U.S. beer market. Aside from the complete divestiture of SAB's interest in MillerCoors, which was discussed at length by Judge

Clarke, Plaintiffs' own exhibits show that the Department of Justice has reached a settlement with ABI and SAB which will prevent increased concentration in the U.S. beer industry. Alioto Decl. Ex. B, at 1.

Accordingly, dismissal shall be with prejudice. Any outstanding motions are DENIED as moot.

It is so ORDERED and DATED this 3rd day of October, 2016.

Ann Aiken

ANN AIKEN
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON
MEDFORD DIVISION

JAMES DEHOOG, ET AL.,

1:15-cv-02250-CL

Plaintiffs,

v.

JUDGMENT

ANHEUSER-BUSCH INBEV,
SA/NV; SABMILLER, PLC,

Defendants.

AIKEN, District Judge:

For the reasons set forth in the Findings and Recommendation of Magistrate Judge Clarke (#102) and my accompanying Order, Defendants' Motions to Dismiss (##41, 43) are GRANTED. This case is dismissed with prejudice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 3 day of September, 2016.

October
Ann Aiken

ANN AIKEN
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE